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COUNTRY

Austria (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT

Teudloff-Vamag Vereinigte Armaturen-  
und Maschinenfabrik A.G.

PLACE ACQUIRED

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NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)DATE ~~INFO~~

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. SO-178091. Installations~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Teudloff-Vamag Vereinigte Armaturen-und Maschinenfabrik AG, now under USIA control, was acquired by the Russians as a German asset. This firm, originally an Austrian concern known as Teudloff-Dittrich from its two Austrian owners, was founded in 1880 and achieved a world-wide reputation; in 1938, it was merged with the German Vamag firm, which had large plants in Mannheim, Heidelberg, and also in Vienna. The present installations of Teudloff-Vamag are two main plants, Work I in Vienna XX, Dresdnerstrasse 49 and Hellwagstrasse 16, Work II in Vienna-Atzgersdorf, Spaisingerstrasse 442. There is also an administrative office at Vienna I, Getreidemarkt 8, and a sales office at Vienna I, Gauermanngasse 2. A newly-formed valve company, ostensibly a strictly Austrian firm, occupies former Teudloff-Vamag office space at Vienna I, Getreidemarkt 8; however, this remains in fact the delivery warehouse of Teudloff-Vamag.

2. Production Prior to the Last War

Teudloff-Vamag produced excellent quality cast steel fittings for the petroleum industry and special fittings for high-pressure pipes. This material was exported principally to southeastern Europe. Hydrants and wells (Brunnen) were delivered to Palestine and Egypt. These items were also exported on a vast scale to South America.

3. Production During the War

Teudloff-Vamag produced chiefly crude oil fittings for delivery to Romania, Hungary, and also to the German-occupied areas of Russia. In addition, gate valves and valves for steam, gas, oil, and gasoline were turned out. During the war, Work I produced monthly eight to ten carloads of tested, high quality special valves, while Work II turned out twenty-six to twenty-nine car-loads a month. This high average production is due to superior management on the part of the former general manager, Dipl. Engr. Josef Harmuth, with his competent technical assistants, Engr. Bischofsky, Engr. Steirer (supervisor), Engr. Binder (assistant supervisor), Kaspar and Nachtnebel (master locksmiths), Hartwig and Buttner (master turners), Wenzl and Mirwizcra (fitters); all these men had twenty to thirty years of experience.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 3 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Director of Defense Mapping Agency.

Next Review Date: 2008

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~4. Equipment

Work I turned down completely during the war (1945), but most of the machinery was salvaged and has been repaired. Repairs on the rest of the plant were begun but came to a stop recently when USIA refused to put up any more funds for the purpose.

Work II was damaged by five bombs; in particular, the foundry and the cranes were hit but very little of the machinery was damaged. Repair work was completed during the war and the plant was in good shape when the Russians took it over.

Work II has modern machinery; there are extensive boring equipment, five vertical lathes, milling machines, planers, turret lathes of various types, and special machinery for making valves. A modern foundry consisting of two cupola ovens and a large shaker sieve permits production of an entire hydrant in one cast. In addition, there are an electric welding shop, a lathe shop, and rooms for final construction and assembly.

Work I has the same machinery as Work II, but it is smaller. It also has a model builder's workshop, a locksmith shop, a welding shop, lathe shop, and a tool making shop.

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5. Leading Personnel

The Russian manager of the firm is Krivitsenko from Kiev, a USIA director.

Comment: In [redacted] this name was reported as Alexander Grebenichenco). The second manager is Dipl. Engr. Rudolf Lischl (residence Vienna KIV, Toepfelgasse 8). The technical office is run by Engr. Langer and Engr. Euschnig. Lischl was a director of the firm during the war and was considered the best qualified man after the general manager, Harmuth. The latter, as an NSDAP member, dropped out of sight when the Russians occupied Vienna, but Lischl stayed on and was recognised by the Russians as Austrian manager. He has recently been withdrawing gradually from his position as manager of the two plants in order to spend more time supervising the administrative and delivery offices. He is thought to be an APP member who intends to transfer plant production to Linz.

6. Workmen

Work I now employs sixteen employees and eighty laborers, of whom 20% are experienced (about three hundred and fifty laborers were employed during the war). About 70% of the working staff are Socialists and 30% are Communists.

Work II employs thirty-five employees and one hundred and twenty laborers, of whom 3% have been with the plant for many years (during the war about five hundred laborers were employed). About 60% are Socialists and 40% are Communists. About 75% of the older, more qualified personnel were dismissed for NSDAP affiliations or did not return to work for other reasons.

Current Production

Present production of six to nine carloads monthly does not reach even a quarter of wartime output, partly because of the lack of experienced personnel and partly because of difficulties in supply of raw materials; another factor is lack of interest on the part of the newly hired laborers. Today most of the steel and cast iron valves are delivered to Hungary and Eastern European countries. Sixty percent of the oil valves are sent to Russia, including cast steel gate valves and globe valves for pressures of 50 to 600 atmospheres; in addition, 5000 grease fittings 2,3 inches thick for pressures up to 100 atmospheres are produced for Hungary. Production for Austria covers hydrants, valves (Brunnen), gate valves of 50 to 1000 mm diameter, and oil valves. USIA oil plants receive preference in regard to delivery. Commercial casting (produced from material furnished by outside factories for delivery to other outside factories) is insignificant and amounts to about 1% of the total production. Inhouse supplies, stored at Vienna I, Gaggenauwerk, and elsewhere, are used to supplement production, and better materials are used. Production is increasing.

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for cast steel production in operation on 1 May 1948. Large supplies of brass and steel are on hand.

6. Working Conditions

Pay is not good at Teudloff-Vameg. Expert workmen get 2.20 schillings an hour; auxiliary laborers get 1.60 to 2.00 schillings an hour (excluding supplementary pay of 1.00 schilling an hour). Recently, the Russian manager tried to increase production by piece-work, paying experts 3.90 to 4.20 schillings per hour. Bonuses are paid rarely and only after the completion of a machine.

USIA is now attempting to rehire technically qualified former employees dismissed for political reasons, among them the former general manager Harmuth.

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